

**STATE BOARD ADVISORY PANEL
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Arizona State Advisory Panel for Special Education held a meeting at Arizona Department of Education, 1535 W. Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, Arizona, on November 28, 2006, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Members Present

J'Anne Affeld
M. Diane Bruening
Ronald L. Clanton
Susan Douglas, Co-chair
Molly Dries
Phyllis Green
Robert Hill
Erik Jensen
Kathy McDonald
Terisa Rademacher, Co-chair
Jean Sargent Richards, Ed.D
Kim Simmons
Kay B. Turner, Ed.D, Vice-chairperson
Nancy Williams

Others Present

Lynn Busenbark, ADE/ESS
Valerie Andrews, ADE/ESS
Jeannette Zemeida, ADE/ESS

Members Absent

Johanna Bookbinder
Jason Geroux
Rebecca Hall
Megan McGlynn
Mattie McVey Lord

Minutes Approved (As Read)(As Amended)

Chairperson: _____

Signature

Date

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
1. Call to order.	Terisa Rademacher, Co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.	1. None
2. Approval of September 12, 2006 minutes.	J'anne Affeld made a motion and seconded by Kathy McDonald to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2006 meeting.	2. Motion carried
3. Public comment.	Terisa Rademacher welcomed the public in attendance. She explained to those present the procedures for making a comment. Anyone wishing to comment on an agenda item was asked to fill out a brief questionnaire stating which agenda item they wished to comment on. That person would then be called on when that item was discussed.	3. None
4. Panel Business	<p>The Panel held a discussion regarding presenting the 2005-2006 SEAP Annual Report to the State Board. Kay Turner and Terisa Rademacher volunteered to attend the December 4, 2006 State Board meeting to present the report and to answer questions from the State Board.</p> <p>Susan Douglas provided the Panel with the minutes from the June 2006 meeting which pertained to the School Facilities Board. Ms. Douglas explained that the Panel had been unable to discuss the information given to them at that meeting since they lost their quorum during the presentation.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher and Ms. Douglas verbally reviewed the highlights of the presentation and the Panel reviewed the minutes from the June 2006 meeting. Jean Sargent Richards made the following motion: "SEAP will develop recommended guidelines for special education and preschool space needs within public schools and present these to the School Facilities Board (SFB)." Kay Turner seconded the motion. The Panel held a lengthy discussion. One of the topics in the discussion centered on funding of special education preschoolers at only half a day and no funding for typical preschoolers. Dr. Busenbark suggested that SEAP should consider approaching the School Facilities Board regarding all day kindergarten. All day kindergarten is becoming the standard instead of the exception. SEAP could perhaps suggest funding kindergarten at 100% per child versus the current 50%.</p> <p>Vote: Aye: 5; Nay: 7; Abstain: 1 – Motion failed</p> <p>Teri Rademacher made the following motion: "The Executive Committee, and any SEAP volunteers, develop a communication to the State Facilities Board that outlines the federal and state regulations for PEAs regarding serving the needs of preschool students and encourage SFB to take those regulations into consideration when developing their funding formulas." Diane Bruening seconded the motion.</p> <p>Vote: Aye: 12; Nay 0; Abstain: 1 – Motion passed.</p>	4. Motion carried.

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
	Ms. Douglas attended the Third Annual Conference on State Directors Successfully Meeting the Needs of Special Needs Students in Charter Schools. She reported that Arizona is far ahead of other states in meeting the needs of the special education population. Arizona is also on the cutting edge of funding for special education. The keynote speaker's topic was distance learning.	
5. State Performance Plan Indicators 9 and 10	Dr. Lynn Busenbark, Director of Program Support/ESS (Exceptional Student Services), updated the Panel on the drill down responses submitted by the six school districts that were identified as being disproportionate in SPP Indicators 9 and 10 at the September SEAP meeting. After reviewing the data provided by the districts the Panel decided that none of the identified districts was out of compliance.	5. None.
6. Arizona Revised Statutes and Arizona Administrative Code.	Prior to the meeting proposed changes to the statutes were e-mailed to the Panel for review. The Panel reviewed and discussed the proposed changes to the following statutes: 15-943, 15-761, 15-765, R7-2-401, R7-2-402, R7-2-404, R7-2-405, R7-2-407 and R7-2-408. Dr. Busenbark will compile SEAP's comments and forward them on to Joanne Phillips for consideration. Final changes will be available for the Panel to review at the January 2007 SEAP meeting. Superintendent Horne has asked that any changes to the Arizona Revised Statutes and Arizona Administrative Code avoid any requirements that exceed the federal requirements.	6. None.
7. Exceptional Student Services.	Dr. Busenbark announced that Superintendent Horne has reassigned Joanne Phillips to work on special projects for special education. She will continue to work on statutory revisions to the Arizona Revised Statutes and Arizona Administrative Code. Ms. Phillips will also be concentrating on revising the Special Education AZTAS documents. At the time of the November meeting a replacement had not been announced. In response to Dr. Busenbark's announcement the Panel discussed writing a letter of appreciation to Joanne Phillips. Sue Douglas made a motion: "SEAP will develop a letter to thank and recognize Joanne Phillips for her contribution to SEAP via a letter to her and include a copy to the State Board of Education." Kay Turner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Roberta Alley, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Assessment Division, Arizona Department of Education, is looking at what other states are doing with regard to nonstandard accommodations, specifically, calculators. SEAP will follow Ms. Alley's presentation at the December State Board meeting since it is likely that Board members may question SEAP	7. Motion Carried

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
	<p>members regarding SEAP's view on this issue. As a result Ms. Alley was asked to come speak to SEAP regarding her presentation to the State Board.</p> <p>Ms. Alley provided the Panel with a table showing other states' rules on the use of a calculator on standardized tests. The table showed whether or not other states allow the use of a calculator. The Arizona Department of Education will be contacting the states that allow the use of a calculator as a standard accommodation and find out what research they did to show that calculators did not enhance the students' skills. A lot of states require that the student must have a disability for math calculation.</p> <p>Ms. Alley reviewed the development of AIMS. The test was not developed for calculator use. There is a great deal of concern that if every student was required to have a calculator for the assessment would they then need a calculator for instruction? The concern would be how to purchase calculators for every student.</p> <p>Arizona is only one of ten states that has had its assessment program approved by the federal DOE. Arizona constantly works to improve the test in order to give as many students as possible access to the test.</p> <p>Students who take the standard AIMS test with a calculator cannot be counted in a school's participation rate for AYP. Students who take the AIMS-A testing with a calculator can be counted in the school's AYP because the test was developed to allow this.</p> <p>The Arizona Department of Education will be reviewing the math standards for Arizona students in the summer of 2007. The study group will be looking at allowing all students to use a calculator. The math questions on the AIMS test would need to be rewritten and field tested before they could be used. The finalized questions wouldn't be added to the AIMS test until 2010, at the earliest.</p> <p>The Panel discussed allowing students to use calculators for standardized tests. Molly Dries summarized the ideas discussed: 1. Change standards for all children, recognizing that if it were to change it would not be in place until 2010 – what could be done to make this a standard for children with IEPs and 504s before then; 2. Calculators are best practice – Arizona should be moving toward a test that allows this; 3. Modified AIMS should include use of a calculator.</p> <p>Jean Sargent Richards made the following motion: "SEAP recommends that use of a four-function calculator become a standard accommodation for 5th Grade and up for those students who are on a 504 or IEP as determined by the 504 or IEP team". Nancy Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
	Ms. Alley also asked the Panel to comment on the list of standard and nonstandard accommodations. A short discussion followed regarding changing the phrases of "standard" and "non-standard" and the use of some nonstandard accommodations.	
8. Adjournment	<p>The next SEAP meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2007.</p> <p>Proposed agenda items for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Facilities Board Position Paper• Arizona Revised Statutes and Arizona Administrative Code• Report on State Board of Education Presentation• Annual State Performance Report <p>Ms. Rademacher adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.</p>	8. Adjournment.